

GOAL 1. - Reduce Air Pollution

Objective 1. - Reduce the number of vehicles circulating in the border region that do not comply with emissions standards;

Type of project. - Strengthen border city vehicle emissions inspection programs (VEIP) partnering with State's VEIP by an effective enforcement of Mexico's environmental regulation on vehicle importation joining forces to achieve program's target of vehicles going through inspection test aimed toward reaching 100% of vehicle fleet.

Expected output / outcome. - In accordance with 24 actions reached at the conclusion of the border -wide workshop on vehicle emission inspection held in Tijuana, Baja California on November 13 & 14, 2014 toward establishing an harmonized inspection tests at Ports of Entry (POE) where used vehicles are imported to Mexico an attribute that corresponds to PROFEPA's inspectors, by reaching an agreement with each of the 6 northern border states environmental secretary delegating to either the State VEIP or with border cities' VEIPs; At cities where a VEIP program is to be implemented or has recently started an outcome shall include building technical capacity with Auto-mechanics and Emission Inspectors centers being trained, establishing appropriate ordinance or Reglamento as its referred in Mexico's Governance

- 1) A.- In Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua obtain an increment of at least 10% of vehicles passing through the Juarez's VEIP in existence since 1993, compared to an absolute value of vehicles that went through inspection centers the previous year; having a milestone of attaining near 100% compliance in subsequent years; B.- throughout 2015 set up in Santa Teresa, NM – Jeronimo Port of Entry (POE) a VEI unit to carry out Mexico's Environmental regulation on vehicle importation and enforce compliance to 100% of vehicles being imported to Mexico,
- 2) A.- In Ciudad Acuña establish a VEIP supported by a State-wide VEIP set up by the State of Coahuila Environment Secretariat (SME,) leveraging with successes of historical VEIP that has gained expertise of more than 22 years of existence in Ciudad Juarez and State of Baja California's recently enacted VEIP; B.- Put into operation a VEIP where used vehicles imported at Texas POEs include partnering between local VEIP and Mexico's federal enforcement PROFEPA – SEMARNAT aimed toward achieving 100% of compliance;

Objective 2.- By Year 2020 reduce pollutant emissions aimed toward maintaining attainment and compliance in the El Paso, TX–Dona Ana County, NM and at State of Chihuahua's border cities air sheds, of respective National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) or Norms as they are referred in Mexico,

Type of project. - Join forces with collaborative work between SEMARNAT Atmosphere (DGGCAyRETC) offices, State of Chihuahua Urban Development and Ecology Secretariat (SDUE) with border cities' Ecology departments supported by US – Mexico Air Quality Forum committee members such as the JAC – CCC;

Expected output / outcome. - PROAIRE is Mexico's air shed management plan containing various comprehensive sections compared to the USCAA State Implementation Plans (SIPs.) The PROAIRE team should produce social, political, geographic, and demographic information, along with a section that details the air shed air quality monitoring station's network, Emissions Inventory, current ambient air quality standards (Norms) for criteria pollutants, its health related risks of exposure and impacts, and an environmental education / outreach component, supported with well-defined measurable emissions reduction strategies, complemented with identified potential sources of funding and schedule for carrying out those measures included in the PROAIRE; Through 2015 and first half of 2016, produce a 2020 PROAIRE that would substitute the previous Ciudad Juarez's 2012 PROAIRE, taking into account that Mexico recently enacted new ambient air pollutants standards; The PROAIRE 2020 will have an opportunity to include a list of policy measures that were recently presented within the State Of Chihuahua Phase 1 Climate Action Plan, specifically those that shall bring co-benefits in reducing ambient air quality pollutants while protecting public health,

Objective 3. - Maintain effective Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Network (AAQMN) and timely access to air quality data produced at NM/TX /MX air sheds.

Project Type. - The El Paso, TX – Ciudad Juarez air quality monitoring network in existence for 23 years has not been working out due to inconsistent continuity of Juarez's air quality stations which has been out of order, added to the fact that as of August 2014, the City of El Paso Environmental Services' Air Quality monitoring program stopped requesting USEPA's funding for Juarez's consumables, parts and other QA/QC expenses.

Expected output / outcome. – Utilizing the assessment from the 2014-2014 action plan for the El Paso, TX – Dona Ana, County NM – Ciudad Juarez (PDN) AAQMN, outline all possibilities on hand or creatively foreseen mechanisms that would assure financial support for Ciudad Juarez's AAQMN operation expenses, along with funds that would cover cost for laboratory analysis, data validation, QA/QC, consumables, parts and data publication and outreach. Project should include alternative mechanisms for systematic - continuous source of funding that would assure sustainable AAQMN operation and public data outreach / information on existing National and local air quality information systems (SINAICA in Mexico and Leads, Zia and Index in TX, NM and EPA's)

GOAL 2: Water – Improve Access to Clean and Safe Water

- 1) Provide workshops on proper decommissioning of septic tanks, water conservation and pollution prevention in order to better understand, plan and maintain cleanup sources of drinking water on future groundwater supplies in New Mexico-Texas-Chihuahua border, specifically in Dona Ana County, New Mexico (specifically the communities along the corridor between El Paso, Texas and Las Cruces, New Mexico) and Luna County, New Mexico and East El Paso County, Texas.

Expected Outcomes: Working with state or local agencies, identify the communities using septic tanks. Conduct outreach to residents through community workshops, to ensure that residents who are utilizing a septic tank are properly maintaining and if applicable, decommission their septic tanks. An inventory of septic tanks, clearly identified in a GIS system or other tracking system for that community, should be developed in order to continue to track septic tank users. Check Dr Brown's report to see if it covers this area

Objective 2: Help drinking water and wastewater service providers in the border region to implement sustainable infrastructure practices to reduce operating costs, improve energy efficiency, use water efficiently and adapt to climate change.

- 1) Conduct a water audit on small water drinking systems (serves less than a population of 5,000 users) to identify ways to improve efficiency and provide cost-savings measures for that the system.

Expected Outcome: The water audit should at a minimum address but not limited to: gather basic system information, determine flows into and out of the distribution system based on estimates or metering, calculate the performance indicators, assess where the water losses appear to be occurring based on available metering and estimates, analyze data gaps, consider options and making economic and benefit comparisons of potential actions and recommend the appropriate interventions needed to improve performance for the system.

- 2) Outreach and education to improve water quality within the Gulf Task Force Region.

Expected Outcome: Outreach and education to the community on the topic(s): Fats, Oil & Grease Management; Beach Clean-ups and/or Illegal dumping in watersheds.

Expected Outcome: Outreach and education with community officials or water districts on Storm water regulations and Industrial Pretreatment (40 CFR403 and NOM 001-002). Education workshops should measure an increase in participants' knowledge on the subject through some sort of measuring tool.

Objective 3: Work bi-nationally to identify and reduce surface water contamination in Trans - boundary water bodies and watersheds.

Objective 3a: Develop a binational watershed protection plan in the Lower Rio Grande below Falcon International Dam. Initial activities could include partnership building, watershed characterization, definition of goals/identification of solutions, determination of waste load, load allocations for each country, and development of an implementation plan.

Continue to support activities that meet objective 3a– The proposals should address any water quality sampling and collection, data analysis, modeling and surveys still required by the bi-national workgroup on this project. In addition, the work should support any additional training or workshops as well. NEED input from Gilbert or Water Staff on this project. They are putting

together language for the RFP once they have consulted with state and other federal partners. Expect language early next week.

Project Type.- Develop applications and educational outreach efforts for water reuse and water conservation projects.

Expected outcome: Demonstrate water reduction or conservation anywhere in a water system (i.e from the homeowner or end user up to the water utility level). Educational projects can include from doing public education on rainwater harvesting or any other water reuse technique.

Goal 3: PROMOTE MATERIALS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT, AND CLEAN SITES

Waste management programs and services have not kept pace with border communities' needs and the current waste management structure is not adequate to meet these increasing needs. It is necessary to collaborate at all levels to ensure that limited resources are applied in a way that limits additional threats of land contamination and prevents adding to legacy land contamination in the region. It is necessary to expand knowledge and experience on how to apply a material life cycle approach to existing international policies to implement sustainable materials management programs especially E-waste, used cars, household appliances, tires and improve infrastructure and services to manage discarded materials;

Objective 1: By 2020, increase local and state-level institutional knowledge and experience in the area of sustainable material management practices.

Type of project.- Build capacity and improve infrastructure to establish strategies to minimize waste, maximize collections systems, support secondary materials markets, and reduce overall disposal in landfills and open dumps;

- a. Develop comprehensive plans for hazardous and solid waste management, and look for economic/productive reuse where possible, including: sludge from wastewater treatment plants; household hazardous waste; used electronics; agricultural pesticides; food scraps, process chemicals from oil and gas exploration, and medical waste,
- b. Expand environmental education on waste management issues and food recovery programs.
- c. Close and remediate open dumps - prioritizing where required by regulation
- d. Continue to develop sustainable scrap tire management programs to include infrastructure of scrap tire management to increase recycling or material reuse.
- e. Curb illegal dumping of tires, demolition/construction debris, and other waste streams
- f. Continue to expand municipal recycling program
- g. Assist rural communities to build capacity for waste streams (i.e. used oil, household hazardous, electronics, tires, etc.) and assist these communities in implementing recycling, household hazardous waste and electronic waste collection programs. In addition, develop scrap tire management and disposal plans for long term solutions of the

regional scrap tire problem in rural communities which addresses recycling/re-use. Project should include an educational component on sustainable materials management and address infrastructure and collection of recyclables and special wastes (household hazardous, food scraps, tires, demolition debris) etc

Expected Outputs/Outcomes: The projects should be aligned with municipal or state priorities and demonstrate measurable quantities of special waste reduced, reused, or recycled as well as define cleanup activities and demonstrate increased collection or alternative disposal option provided to residents/industries. Project should demonstrate increase the number of citizens that receive both solid waste disposal and recycling service. Project should include an educational campaign.

Objective 2: By 2014, identify priority waste streams and by 2020 develop sustainable material management practices that strengthen their respective market value.

- a. Identify priority waste streams in ten municipalities in Coahuila and develop a sustainable waste management programs for those municipalities to include strengthening the market value of the waste.
- b. Develop sustainable management practices to address used electronics, household hazardous waste, and tires in the Amistad Task Force Region to include an educational component to promote recycling and solid waste practices.

Expected Outputs/Outcomes: The projects should be aligned with municipal or state priorities and demonstrate measurable quantities of special waste reduced, reused, or recycled as well as define cleanup activities and demonstrate increased collection or alternative disposal option provided to residents/industries. Project should demonstrate increase the number of citizens that receive both solid waste disposal and recycling service. Project should include an education campaign to maintain the recovery and reduce of such waste.

GOAL 4: EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Objective 2: By 2020, at least eight (8) of the sister city joint contingency plans will be supplemented with preparedness and prevention related activities such as certified training, risk analysis, and/or capacity building

- 1) Conduct bi-national training to both U.S. and Mexican local emergency responders, on incidents involving Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or Explosive (CBRNE), and/or all hazards response skills enabling them to respond safely and effectively to these types of incidences.

Expected outcome: The proposal should include a letter of support from both U.S. and Mexican sister-cities and tribes involved. Proposals should document close coordination with local agencies. Training topics should include at least two of the previously identified CBRNE topics. Training topics should also be identified as priorities for the local agencies. Generally, the course should present information regarding immediate response actions associated with life safety, preservation of property, and restoration of an incident site, as well as information related to the identification of hazards.

Below are examples of critical skills sets that may be included in the training:

- Identify potential targets for a CBRNE attack.
- Describe the wide-ranging implications of biological agents when used as weapons.
- Describe the threats associated with chemical weapons and the proper response to a chemical hazard incident.
- Identify radiological sources and hazards.
- Operate various chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear dissemination devices.
- Evaluate a hazardous area using various monitoring and sampling tools.
- Perform mass casualty triage and evacuation operations at a CBRNE/all-hazards mass casualty incident.
- Perform mass casualty decontamination operations in response to a CBRNE incident.
- Initiate preliminary stages for implementation of the Incident Command System by emergency responders.

- 2) Conduct bi-national training to U.S. and Mexican local emergency responders, specifically on HAZMAT incidences only.

Expected outcomes: the proposal should include agreements signed by officials of the sister-cities or tribes that benefit from this course. The training should include specific HAZMAT topics that the locals have identified as a priority. Proposals that are of a train-the-trainer HAZMAT course will be given higher preference to those that are not train-the-trainer model course.

- 3) Conduct bi-national: 1) tabletop drill with functional drill/exercise or 2) Full Scale Drill / Exercises to test local sister city plans. In order to meet the definition of bi-national, the drills/exercises should go beyond a simple notification to the local sister-city pair and demonstrate actual coordination of resources (expertise, equipment, personnel, etc.) between the sister-cities.

Expected Outcome: The proposal should include a letter of support from both the U.S. and Mexican sister-city pair or tribe selected and should coordinate with not just the local fire departments but other relevant stakeholders (i.e. Customs and Border Protection, Medical Institutions/Hospitals, Law Enforcement, local businesses, schools or other local, state or federal entities located within that region). The type of HAZMAT incident selected should be identified by the locals as a priority for that region. As with any emergency response drill/exercise conducted, bi-national pre-meetings and post-meetings are expected, including a final after-action report with specific recommendations on how to improve the local sister-city plan and what additional training is recommended.

- 4) Develop a hazardous materials risk analysis.

Expected Outcome: The risk analysis should identify facilities within the region that store or transport hazardous materials, including the type of materials and quantity. The risk analysis developed should be a geographic information system (GIS) analysis that is able to be accessed by both US and Mexican responders. If there is sensitive information that is included, then the system should be secured and only authorized US and Mexican representatives should be given access to the information. The risk analysis should address, at a minimum, mitigation measures to risks identified, as well as gaps and needs. The analysis should not only include information from existing government databases and reports, but also input or coordination with other local stakeholders such as industry, etc.

GOAL 5. - COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Objective 4. - By 2020 implement at least 5 binational workshops targeted to environmental enforcement and at DHS-CBP Port of Entry (POEs) professionals.

Type of Project. - Exercise exchange of information to improve understanding each Country's respective compliance and enforcement programs and tools including field inspections and case development practices.

Expected output / outcome. – A thorough curriculum covering US and Mexico's laws and regulations carried out over a two day workshop, training federal environmental enforcement and POE customs personnel, extending participation of custom brokers, freight and shippers staff from companies involved in cross border movement of hazardous chemicals accordingly to the type of goods transported in the Ysleta – Zaragoza POE and or at other major POE such as Laredo – Nuevo Laredo POE. Focus on improving enforcement by strengthening federal agency's coordination in both sides of the border with custom brokers, truckers and shippers, focusing on legal framework and case development, harmonizing knowledge on enforcement through better case development and intelligence – led enforcement tools. The two day workshop will be directed to approximately 50 attendees.

FUNDAMENTAL STRATEGY

Promoting Environmental Health.-

Type of project. - In 2014, the Environmental Protection Agency and Border Health Commission signed a Collaborative Agreement to work on strengthening the link between the environment and public health. In addition, the Border 2020 framework calls for capacity building through environmental and education training to serve as a tool to increase engagement and participation by the community and stakeholders to better manage the complex environment and public health issues along the border.

Expected Outputs/Outcomes: The proposals submitted under this fundamental strategy should focus on developing certified environmental health curriculum that can be utilized by border community health workers or “promotoras”.

The curriculum should focus in one or several area(s): lead, mercury, pesticides, and other heavy metals in the environment, air quality, water quality, waste or climate change as any of these relate to the environmental health impact they have on people, especially children. The curriculum should be such that it can be replicated in other areas along the U.S.-Mexico Border. In addition, “promotoras” who receive this training also receive certified continuing education credits in either New Mexico or Texas or both states. The curriculum should empower promotoras and ultimately the community with a clear and concise message on the impact the environment has on health and protective measures that can be taken. Last, the curriculum developed should work with “promotoras” on both the U.S and Mexico.